THE BEGINNING OF CIVIL-WARRES IN ENGLAND

OR, A

Skirmish between the Lord *Strange*, and the Inhabitants of *Manchester* in *Lancashire*, July 4. With the Number of the men that were slain and wounded on both sides, and a Catalogue of the Officers that were in this Skirmish.

The occasion whereof was through the Lord *Stranges* Resolution to take away their *Magazine* by force, having received many forces from *Yorke*.

Likewise a Letter which the Lord *Strange* sent to the Gentry of *Manchester*, July 5. with their Answer to the said Letter, Together with the *Parliaments* Declaration and Order concerning the aforesaid Lord.

Ordered that this be Printed and published,

Hen. Elsing. Cler. Parl. D. Com.

LONDON:
Printed for J. TOMPSON, July 9. 1642.

TERRIBLE NEWES FROM THE NORTH.

THe Malignant Party of this Kingdome hath for a long time continued in their wicked and damnable Designs; insomuch, that their impudencie is grown to such a height, that they are not ashamed to make their intentions publikely known to the whole world, as may appear by this insuing Relation.

Upon the 4. day of this instant month of *July*, 1642. the Lord *Strange* came from *Yorke*, and approached neer the

Town of *Manchester* with a great number of Armed men, and comming neer the Town he sent to the Inhabitants thereof to know their minds whether they would agree to the Proposition which he had sent them two or three dayes before, for the restoring of the *Magazine* which were in that Town to his owne Custody, threatning them, that if they would not, he would send such a Messenger that should make them yeeld, and bring them to due subjection.

The *Inhabitants* having received this Message, they resolved to send this Answer unto him, which they did accordingly, that for the *Magazine* which was in that Town, they would not restore it to him, it being the only safeguard and defence they had.

And they likewise Declared, that if his Lordship did take any other course to seize upon it violently, they would lose their dearest lives in defence thereof, by reason the Country was in such a great distraction and perplexity, that they did

not

not know how soon they might be dis-
possest of all they had, if so be they had
not Arms to defend themselves withall.
The Lord *Strange* having received this
Answer, and hearing what their Resolu-
tion and Intention were, hee was much
perplexed in mind, drawing all his For-
ces together, he marched against the said
town of *Manchester*, and shot off 3. or 4.
Muskets against them, but the *Inhabitants*
seeing that he were come, and that Hee
were resolved to take the *Magazine* away
by force, understanding his full intention
by the Messengers which came from
him, they resolved every man to fight it
out.

Whereupon each man stood upon His
own guard, and about 9. of the clocke in
the morning on the 5. day of this present
month, the Lord *Strange* came with his
forces against the town, and would have
entred, but that they kept him out by
force, but Captain *Smith* being in the
Front, gave a fierce firing against the In-
habitants of *Manchester*; but was answe-

red

red with most diuelish courage again, and slew two of the Lords men.

Whereupon a great and furious skirmish did ensue; *The Lord Strange having besieged the Town, he began to giue battell against them, but the Inhabitants being true within themselues, ordered the businesse so well, that they drew out ten small Companies, and set them in a faire Battalion against them, answering each other very furiously at the first: but after some two or three houres skirmish, there was seven more of the Lord Stranges men slain, and two of the Inhabitants of Manchester, namely one Master Band was shot in the thigh.*

After they had ceased two or three houres, they began again, each Company striuing for the day, and after the space of two houres, they ended the Battell with the Sun of the day, the Lord Strange withdrawing his forces about two miles from Manchester, having lost as is iustly supposed 27. men, of the other side, 11. Captain Band is very well recouered again praised be God.

Wee expect daily when the L. *Strange* will

will visit us again, but I hope the Lord will enable us against his comming.

They give out many threatning speeches against us, and it is thought here that he hath sent for many more Forces towards Yorke.

The Lord Rivers gives out many scandalous speeches against us, and striveth by all means he possible can, to set the whole Country against us.

This is the beginning of Civill Warre, being the first stroke that hath bin struck, and the first Bullet that hath bin shot, but GOD knowes when the ending will be, or when the troubles of this Kingdome will grow to a period.

Many thousands I doubt will lose their lives before that this Kingdome be setled in peace and untity, as it hath bin formerly, for no man knoweth the CRUELL of war, but those that have felt and tryed it, for when that time commeth, many Child will be left Fatherlesse, and many a poore wife Husbandlesse.

But God of his great mercy, stop the sword from going any further, and as it

is

is but a little way drawn, so Lord I beseech thee sheath it again, before that it be drawn any further, that so by that meanes the Walls of Syon may not bee beaten down nor destroyed.

It is ordered that the Lord Strange be required to deliver that part of the Magazine of the County of Lancaster into the hands of the Deputy Lieutenants.

Ordered that this be printed and published.

John Brown Clen. Parl.

[redacted]

FINIS.